THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) A group of Experts chaired by Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, constitute by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for preparing a preliminary draft of the National Population Policy, has submitted its report on 24th May, 1994. The report has been tabled in the Rajya Sabha on 14th June, 1994. Consultation with States|UTs and other Ministries|Departments of the Government of India has been initiated.

(b) and (c) Several new initiatives have been taken under the National Family Welfare Programme. These include implementation of the Action Plan formulated in 1992, special attention to the States of Bihar, M.P., Rajasthan and U.P., additional inputs for identified performing districts, the Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Project, strengthening of infrastructure through externally assisted Area Projects, innovative approaches in IEC and greater involvement of NGOs. The Constitution (79th Amendment) Bill has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha to demonstrate political commitment to the small family norm.

Medical aid to elders

191. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that elderly persons especially poor people in rural areas face enormous problems in getting medical facilities in the country;

(b) whether Government are also aware that they have to depend upon private medical treatment which is very costly;

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme to provide free medical aid to elderly poor people in the country; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND). (a) to (d) Free medical services are available to all persons including elderly and poor people in rural areas through a network of Sub-centres. Primary Health Centres, Community Health Centres and District Hospitals. Many persons opt for private medical treatment.

परिवार नियोजन कार्यक्रम के लक्ष्य और उपलब्धियां

192. **प्रो. विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा :** क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1992-93 और 1993-94 हेतु परिवार नियोजन के लिए क्रमश: क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किये गये थे ;

(ख) वे लक्ष्य किस हद तक पूरे किये गये;

(ग) इन लक्ष्यों को पूरा न कर पाने के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(घ) सरकार परिवार नियोजन के माध्यम से जनसंख्या वृद्धि को रोकने हेतु क्या कदम उठा रही है ?